

2023-2024 Concerto Competition

Final auditions: Grusin Music Hall Sunday, Feb. 25, 2024, 12:30 p.m.

Deadlines

Collaborative pianist request: Thursday, Dec. 14, 2023, 5 p.m.

Student entrant online application form: Monday, Jan. 22, 2024, 5 p.m.

- Each of the following faculties—Brass/Percussion, Keyboard, Strings, Voice, and Woodwinds—will hold preliminary auditions before Feb. 20, 2024 and shall select up to **three** representatives for the final auditions. Students must prepare their entire concerto for the preliminary round and the jury will choose the specific passages they would like to hear. Candidates are **not** to make their own cuts in the solo portions of the music. One undergraduate and one graduate student will ultimately be chosen to perform with orchestra; therefore, you may send forward either two undergraduates and one graduate student **or** two graduate students and one undergraduate. Only the most outstanding students should be recommended for the finals. An online application form is available [here](#) and must be completed by January 22, 2024.
- **Non-standard repertoire *must* be cleared with Director of Orchestral Studies Gary Lewis.** Solo works with Wind Symphony will also be considered, in which case, the repertoire should be cleared with Professor Don McKinney. Concerti featuring multiple soloists are acceptable. Two essential criteria should be considered when choosing repertoire. First, the total duration of the piece must allow it to fit comfortably into a typical orchestral or wind symphony program. Second, bear in mind the limited amount of rehearsal time: if the ensemble parts are too complex, the piece is unlikely to be programmed. **When in doubt, please check directly with Profs. Lewis or McKinney.**
- Collaborative pianists must be secured by **Thursday, Dec. 14, 2023 at 5 p.m.** Instrumentalists must fill out the online collaborative pianist request form AND turn in music to the collaborative piano department by this deadline. Singers must contact the collaborative piano department for repertoire and pianist approval by this deadline. Collaborative pianists must remain the same in every round of the competition. Accommodations will not be made for individual schedules during the final round of competition. Order of performance will be determined by draw.
- There will be two winners, one undergraduate and one graduate student, who will be featured with the University Symphony Orchestra, Chamber Orchestra or Wind Symphony in the 2024/25 academic year.
- Winners of the competition who graduate between the time of the audition and their scheduled performance will be invited to return as soloists at their own expense. Any student winner who has discontinued study prior to graduation will be ineligible to perform as soloist.
- Only candidates who are prepared with an entire work by the preliminary audition date will be eligible to compete. Playing time in the finals will be 12 minutes maximum - contestants will be scheduled every 15 minutes, or less, if the repertoire is shorter. Candidates are not to make their own cuts in the solo portions of the music: The Honors Audition Committee will determine what part(s) of the prepared work will be heard at the audition.
- Singers may prepare concert arias, operatic arias, or songs written with orchestral accompaniment. They should prepare up to three different selections, which may include duets. The total time should not exceed 15 minutes and may not include material from operas performed at CU during the past two years.
- Works performed by the previous year's winners cannot be entered into the competition.
- **REQUIRED:** Competitors must submit current information documenting the availability of orchestral parts for the music on their programs: publisher, edition #, and date.
- Competitors must be full-time students at the time of the audition.
- Previous winners are NOT eligible to compete again to allow more opportunities for other students.
- Students entering as an ensemble: Each member must be eligible. Ensembles including students from more than one department can only compete in one departmental preliminary competition.
- Memorization is not required but may be a factor during consideration by the judges.